The Prydonian Renegade

The newsletter of The Prydonians of Prynceton
Volume Four, Number Eleven
February 1988

Welcome to DSV 1!

Step inside...

Editorials

DSV 1Takes Off!

Let's thank the crew

As DSV 1 takes off on its shakedown cruise, let's all thank her wonderful crew, starting with Chairperson Laurie Cohen and Vice Chairperson Deb Walsh. Thanks to their months of hard work, the ship is ready, fuelled,and manned and the itinerary is full. Let's also thank the many other members of the convention committee, all the volunteers, and, not least, the guests, who have given of their time and energy to be here to share this inaugural flight with us. Standard by a bazillion and one!

What not to miss

Any three-day convention has a lot going on. So much so, that neofen and even experienced congoers may not know what to see and what not to miss. Of all the many wonderful things planned for this weekend, two special events should be on everyone's dance card: **the charity auction,** scheduled (as of our press time) for Saturday evening, and **the Liar's Panel,** which will probably be on Sunday afternoon. We're not going to say why; go and you'll find out. You'll also thank us later.

You should also look for such things as story readings (probably in the con suite), filk sings, music videos, and other examples of fanart. If you've never been to a fan-run con before, boy, do you have a treat in store for you!

Check out the clubs

This area is blessed by a number of excellent fan clubs for Blakes 7 and/or Doctor Who, most of which will have representation in the dealers room at DSV 1. Besides us, there are the Unearthly Children of Pennsylvania, the Cygnus Alphans of southern New Jersey, and, possibly, the Jersey Jagaroth of northern New Jersey. All of them publish excellent newsletters and have great monthly meetings. They are also commited to providing services to fans; the UEC and the Cygnus Alphans collaborated with us on the convention suite here at DSV. Stop by their tables and check them out.

Why we picked on Sleer

Security Commissioner Barbarella Sleer's bizarre suicide seems to have put an end to the feud raging between her and *The Renegade.* Over the past few months, we have detailed a series of transgressions commited by the Commissioner, provoking a number of unpleasant letters from her to us. The revelation, printed on page three, that she was the late President Natasha Servalan's twin sister and that she murdered Servalana, was more than Sleer could take, apparently, and she decided to end it all. Well, we here can only say it's about time. Sleer was even less fun to deal with than her late twin; her Pylene-50 program was the most vicious threat to human freedom and happiness since home shopping clubs. We were even thinking of hiring a hit man to take care of her. Interestingly enough, we received one last piece of hate mail from the ugly broad just before she put us all out of her misery; it's printed in this issue just as a final reminder of how big a nag she really was. All's well that ends well.

The High Council

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Letters to *The Renegade*

[The following letter was sent to the editor of The Renegade:]

Dear Tom:

Thank you for your letter and my copy of *The Renegade.* A good edition. I'm delighted to be the "Special Prydonian Renegade of the Year" [See January issue, page two]... You listed some of my minor achievements during 1987...Just for the record, I have perfected a time travel machine; did a brain transplant operation on President Reagan (unhappily it seems to have failed); proved conclusively that all of Einstein's theories were hoaxes; walked on water; and talked the Pope out of renouncing Catholicism. Not a lot, I agree. Perhaps I can do better next week.

As for Blakes 7...what does it mean to me? The popularity of the show here in the US is emotionally very rewarding. It has given me the opportunity to meet a special group of Americans...the fans. I will always be grateful for their interest, warmth, and most all, friendship. I want to nominate myself as the number one fan...of the fans.

You're keeping up a terrific standard for the *Renegade* ...I really enjoy it.

Terry Nation

Uh...gosh, Terry. Why didn't you mention your most incredible achievement of all? Coming up with a plot line for Dynasty that makes sense? And thanks for the fan mail. It's pleasing the 'little people' out there in fandom, like you, that makes being the editor such a worthwhile job.

Dear Prydonians:

Has anyone who is watching *Star Trek: The Next Generation* noticed that the crew's golden communicators are the same shape as the symbol of the Federation in *Blakes 7* (only turned on its side)?

The Seventh Doctor seems OK, and I think that the planet shown in the opening credits is Gallifrey. We've only seen the planet itself once, in "Invasion of Time," and they looked the same.

One more thing: is the actor who played Goth in "Deadly Assassin" the same one who played a Time Lord at the end of "The War Games"? One more thing (again): does anyone know what happened to DWFCA this time? Or are they trying to beat their own

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TARDIS Talk

Sleer commits suicide; indicted for murder of twin sister Servalan

Barbarella Sleer, Commissioner of Federation Security for the Outer Planets, has commited suicide just before she was going to be indicted for the murder of her twin sister, former Federation President Natasha Servalan. Glen Vynd, Federation Arbiter General, was about to unseal a Grand Jury True Bill charging the flamboyant Commissioner with destroying the planetoid Terminal while her sister was vacationing there. Sleer, informed of the impending action by a Federation process server (who was later found swimming face down in her pool), killed herself on the planet Gauda Prime by throwing herself into the arms of a wanted criminal just before he was gunned down by a squad of Security troops. No further information is available at this time.

The indictment was just the latest in a series of wild revelations about the fashion-mad Sleer. Until an unknown computer leaked the information, it wasn't even known that Sleer and Servalan were twins, for example. It also wasn't know exactly how Servalan died [see *The Renegade,* September issue, page seven, for an obituary]. Although some of the details are still sketchy, enough is now known to piece the story together. Sleer and Servalan were both in love with the same scientist, a fugitive named Egrorian. Sleer was unable to accept losing the brilliant physicist to her more famous sibling, so she plotted to eliminate her rival. After the President revealed to Host Dobbin Leech on *Lifestyles of the Insane and Barbarous* that she was building a holiday home on the new resort planet Terminal, Sleer waited until her sister occupied the underground dwelling, then had the planet destroyed.

Apparently, Sleer then offered herself to Egrorian, whom she had tracked to the planet Malodaar. Egrorian rejected her and she killed him and his assistant. Then, unable to bear her

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NJN Shows All McCoy "Who's" in March, April

New Jersey Network will broadcast all four Sylvester McCoy episodes of *Doctor Who* in March and April. "Time and the Rani" will be rebroadcast on Saturday, March 12, at 9 pm. "Paradise Tower" will air on Saturday, March 19; "Delta and the Bannermen" will be shown on March 26; and "Dragonfire," introducing new Companion Ace, played by Sophie Aldred, will play April 2. These three will all show at 9 pm. (This schedule is tentative as of our press time.)

We don't know as yet when other PBS stations in our area will show these stories.

"Sea Thieves" wins B7 Story Contest

Our Blakes 7 Story Contest is over. The winning story is "Sea Thieves," by Toni Lay, which appears on page five. Toni wins *The Bizarro Zine,* the new compilation of Leah Rosenthal and Ann Wortham's Bizarro 7 stories. Second place goes to Barbara Hamilton Fletcher's "Of Strength and Hindrance." Third place has been won by Cindy Henry for "In the Chromatic Hues of Infinity." Thanks to all twelve authors for their submissions. We will have our Fourth Annual Doctor Who Story Contest starting in May, and our 1988 Blakes 7 Story Contest beginning next September.

Club meetings in February & March

The February Assembly will be held on Saturday, Feb. 6, from noon to 4 pm at the Lawrenceville Library in Lawrenceville, NJ. Food and drink are welcomed. For information and directions, call 609-921-8148.

The March Assembly will be held Saturday, March 5, same time, same place.

"Pounds-Off Pledges" Raises $$$ for SIDS

The December *Renegade* ran a picture of Colin Baker showing him before and after he lost fifty pounds on a challenge from *The Sun,* a British newspaper that once labeled him "Doctor Huge." For each pound Colin lost, *The Sun* donated £100 to researching SIDS (sudden infant death syndrome). Colin and his wife Marion lost their first child to SIDS, and SIDS is now his pet charity.

We thought it would be nice for the club to show its support of Colin by having our own fund drive with all the money going to the American SIDS organization.

Our challenge is called "Pounds-Off Pledges" (PoP). The idea is to pick one of our seven volunteers—**Colin's 7!**—and pledge X amount of money per pound lost by your chosen volunteer. It officially starts February 1 and ends May 31. This will let us collect all the pledged money by June 17—Colin's birthday.

"Colin's 7" are Cathy Boudreau, Tom Beck, Julie Florez, Cindy Henry, Pat Betz (of the Unearthly Children, making this a cross-club undertaking), Karlene Hartel, and Dorothy Case, who thought up the idea.

Members can pledge in several ways: 1) X amount per pound lost per volunteer (e.g., 10¢/lb lost by Tom); or 2) the same as above, only to a stated total limit (e.g., $2 no matter how much Tom loses); or 3) a straight donation, regardless of how much the volunteer loses (e.g., $5, even if Tom doesn't manage to lose any weight). You can also pick more than one volunteer.

The contact person is Dorothy Case, 250 Morris Avenue, Trenton, NJ 08611 (609-392-6204). All the money raised will go to the New Jersey Chapter of the National Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Foundation. Sound like a worthwhile cause? Then pitch in and pledge for pounds off!

Sylvester McCoy at Creation Feb 27–8

Sylvester McCoy, Doctor Who number seven, will be at the Creation Convention February 27–8 at the Penta Hotel at 7th Avenue and 34th Street. This will be his first appearance at an American convention. Tickets are available from Ticketron or from Creation at 145 Jericho Turnpike, Mineola, NY 11501 (phone 516-746-9626). We will have a table at this convention.

What's Where in Blakes 7 Fandom

A brief (and very incomplete) guide

This is an attempt to point out a few of the many resources available to Blakes 7 fans. It is not an exhaustive list. There are undoubtedly many fine organizations and publications that didn't get a mention here because we didn't know about them. This is also not particularly an endorsement of any of the items that appear on the list. But we think they're all worth checking out.

Blakes 7 organizations and publications:

Cygnus Alphans: One of the newer groups around, a Blakes 7–only club in southern New Jersey. Excellent newsletter, *The Liberator's Log.* Meetings once a month in Berlin, NJ. Dues are $6 a year. Write 23 Coleman Road, Berlin, NJ 08009.

Unearthly Children: One of the oldest Doctor Who clubs in the country, and one of the best. Now heavily into Blakes 7 as well. Great meetings, loads of neat people. Monthly newsletter, *The Children's Page.* $6 to join, $5 to renew. Also has Fanzine Fanatics, a lending library. Write PO Box 642, Richboro, PA 18954.

Freedom Party: A very new Blakes 7 club for New York City. Regular meetings, monthly newsletter, *The Party Line* (funny and very strange). For information, write Roselle Zubey, 5 West 63rd Street, #604, New York, NY 10023.

The Time Squad: Another new club, also interested in Doctor Who, Star Trek: The Next Generation, and other stuff. Mostly a club by mail at this point. Good monthly newsletter. No meetings, and no plans to have any. $5 per year (check payable to James Heacock). Write 220 Clifton Avenue, Mt. Holly, NJ 08060.

Terry Nation's Scorpio: The only national Blakes 7 club at the moment. They put on the annual Scorpio superconvention in Chicago (see note on this page). Quarterly newsletter, *Signals from Scorpio.* $8 a year. Make check payable to Cherry Steffey. Write PO Box 397, Midlothian, IL 60445.

Pressure Point: A monthly newsletter with fanzine reviews, news, and other stuff. Subscription is $6 (make check payable to Pat Nussman). Worth getting for all the stuff we don't have space to print on this page. Write c/o Pat Nussman, 2 J Breezy Tree Court, Timonium, MD 21093.

Lost Seska: A letterclub. Publishes a bimonthly letterzine, *Federation Archives,* with members' letters. Also prints lists of members and addresses, and names and addresses of clubs and organizations. Only $4 a year. Checks payable to Linda Terrell. Write PO Box 25, Dunedin, FL 34697.

Horizon: The largest British club. Publishes a would-be quarterly newsletter, *Horizon.* When it comes out (issue 19 has just been mailed, finally) it's excellent. $18 a year. Write Ann Steele, 47 Aylward Road, Merton Park, London, SW 20 9AJ, England.

Avon, The Paul Darrow Society: A club for all you Avonatics and Darrowphiles out there. Run with Paul's permission. Quarterly newsletter with news and photos. $15 a year, payable to Ann Bown, 37A Byfleet Avenue, Old Basing, Basingstoke, Hampshire, R624 OHR, England.

Vilaworld: For fans of Vila and Michael Keating and for all Seveners. Quarterly newsletter. $8 a year, to Yvette Clarke, 85 Brendon Green, Millbrook, Southampton, Hampshire S01 4BE, England.

The Jersey Jagaroth: Doctor Who only, but excellent at it. Great monthly parties, superb newsletter, *A Mouth on Legs.* $8 per year. Write PO Box 223, Morristown, NJ 07960. They do publish the next item on our list:

Freedom City Gazette: Unique among American fanzines. No fiction, only interviews, features, and an excellent story guide. Three issues out so far, on Michael Keating, Paul Darrow, and Terry Nation. $3.50 per issue. 10 Hall Court, Park Ridge, NJ 07656.

B7 Complex: One of the longest-running fanzines in the US. Great fiction and artwork. Back issues are available quarterly. Number 14 should be at DSV 1. For information, send a SASE to 346 Ferry Street, #3, Malden, MA 02148.

Southern Seven: Only two issues out so far and it's already a legend. Just about the thickest, heaviest fanzine around. Just about the best, too. Number one is out of print; no idea about number two. Send a SASE to 1402 Allison Avenue, Altamonte Springs, FL 32701.

The Bizarro Zine: Quack if you like Blake! The first Bizarro 7 compilation. Number 1 will be at DSV 1 (and may already be sold out!) Send a SASE to Leah Rosenthal, 1280 East 18th Street, #1D, Brooklyn, NY 11230.

Blakes 7 Conventions:

ORAC: (Or, "Organized Rebellions Ain't Cheap"). An "Alpha Grade B7 convention" with Michael Keating, Terry Nation, Paul Darrow, and Janet Lees Price (Mrs Darrow and Klyn in "Blake"). April 9 and 10 near San Francisco. $50. Write 1131 Landing Lane, Millbrae, CA 94030.

Scorpio VI: The annual biggie. No guests yet, but still.... Next August 5–7 at the Hyatt Oakbrook Hotel in Oakbrook, IL. $40, made payable to Nancy Kolar. Include a SASE. Write PO Box 397, Midlothian, IL 60445.

We are organizing **Scorpio Flight II,** a group plane trip to and from Chicago. If you're interested in going, call Linda Anne Lineaweaver at 609-877-3464.

Sleer Commits Suicide

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guilt and depression, she followed another fugitive from Federation justice, tentatively identified as Curt Havens (wanted for failing to pay 11,322 parking tickets), and was killed with him in a shootout on Gauda Prime. Authorities have been unable to trace any previous connection between the Commissioner and Havens.

Sleer's body has not yet been recovered. A disappointed Vynd said he was still going to present the indictment, saying "she's slippery enough that the bullets might just slide off her." A memorial service will be held next week on Helotrix. The family ask that no flowers be sent. In fact, the family ask that all mourners please go stuff themselves.

Story Contest Winner!

Sea Thieves

by Toni Lay

Roj Blake paced to and fro, waiting. He waited for the upcoming battle with eager anticipation. He and his crew were about to annoy the Federation once again. The information they had gotten at their last port of call, Tortuga, said the Federation merchant would be in this area, laden with goods. So, Blake paced and waited, waited for the sighting.

"Sail ho!" came the cry from above.

"Where away?!" shouted Blake up to Gan in the crow's nest on the mizzenmast.

"Three points to portside!" Gan replied.

Blake was handed his spyglass by his cabin boy, Nova. Looking off to the left side of his stolen barkentine, *Liberator,* he saw the tops of the Federation galleon's three masts.

"Have they spotted us, Captain?" Nova asked eagerly.

"Not yet," Blake answered. "The sun's in their faces. Jenna, three points to port."

"Three points to port, aye, Captain," the blonde woman replied. Quickly she spun the great wooden wheel and felt the ship begin to swing.

"Avon, get all hands to battle station," Blake called to his second-in-command, who was standing on the main deck. Avon immediately went to the ship's bell and rang it furiously.

"All hands on deck!" he cried. "All hands to battle stations!"

The doors leading below decks burst open and the crew rushed forth to their assigned stations. Gan left the lookout position to take his place at a gun port with his cannon crew. Cally and Vila were at their ports with their crews. In all, eight gun positions were made ready.

Blake looked to the banner flying from the mainmast. The black flag with the white skull and sword through one eye socket flapped strongly in the stiff wind. It was a fair wind and in their favour. He peered once more through the spyglass and saw that the *Liberator's* heading was true. They would be upon the galleon in minutes.

"All hands are at battle stations, Captain," Avon reported as he came up onto the quarterdeck. "Cannons are primed and ready."

"Very good, Avon. We won't have long to wait."

Ten minutes later, the Federation merchantman changed course.

"They've seen us, Captain," Avon said as he lowered his spyglass. "Looks like they're turning to fight. They know they can't outrun us. They're probably hoping to disable us enough to make a break for it."

"Not if we can help it, right, Avon?" Blake smiled.

"Right you are, Captain," Avon replied with a wicked grin.

The atmosphere on the *Liberator* was tense. The Federation vessel could not outrun them, but it matched them in firepower. Each ship's gun crews would be trying to knock down the sails and rigging of the other. Blake was a bundle of anticipation, waiting to leap into action. His black boots clunked on the wooden deck as he began to pace again. The floorboards groaned with each step. The fingers of his right hand played with the hilt of the cutlass hanging from his belt, and the wind played with the folds of his dark brown silk shirt and matching trousers. The ruby stud in his ear glinted gaily as the bright lat morning sunlight caught its faceted surface.

Blake looked for a moment at his crew. Avon had gone to stand behind the cannon crews, silent like a black-clad hawk about to swoop down on a kill. In one hand he held a cutlass, in the other a pistol. He waited for the word to be given, for the slaughter to begin.

Cally and Gan stood quietly, patiently awaiting to order to fire. Vila twitched nervously. Vila always twitched nervously before a battle, although once the first salvo was fired, he was too busy to twitch. Each held a smouldering length of cord to put to the touch-hole.

Blake looked off to the side at the rest of his crew. They were cut-throats, thieves and mercenaries all, rescued from Federation dungeons, but all were skilled and experienced fighters. They stood ready with sword and pistol in hand. They all awaited his orders.

Blake knew some would die this day; he hoped it would not be many. He'd promised them shore leave after this battle, and he would see to it that those who survived would have a good one. This prize was worth fighting for. The Federation galleon reportedly carried food, arms, and other valuable prizes.

"Steady as she goes," he called to Jenna at the wheel.

"Steady, aye, Captain," she answered.

The *Liberator* quickly gained distance on the galleon. Her white sails ballooned fully in the wind.

"Jenna, stand by for maneuvers. This may get tricky."

"Standing by, Captain," she replied. Then, giving him a smile, "Don't worry, Blake, I can handle her."

As the pirate barkentine neared the Federation ship, they could see hurrying activity aboard the enemy vessel as its crew prepared for battle.

Nova, Blake's cabin boy, was peering over the railing through his own small spyglass. "Captain, that's the *Servalan!"* he exclaimed.

Blake raised his spyglass to his eye and aimed it at the name on the bow of the ship. Nova was right. It was the *Servalan.* Blake turned his glass to the enemy quarterdeck, to where her captain stood. There was a momentary intake of breath as Blake recognized his opponent. Travis! This was going to be a good fight, indeed.

The *Servalan* swung around to bring her cannon to bear on the Liberator. The *Liberator* glided in and faced her adversary.

"Jenna, when I give you the word, turn her hard about," Blake ordered.

"Whenever you say, Captain." Blake smiled to himself. Jenna was the best pilot around.

Keeping his eye on the enemy gun crews, Blake tried to anticipate their next move. When he saw the cannons being run out, he knew it was time.

"Hard about!" he ordered.

The *Liberator* turned sharply under Jenna's guidance. Hearing the order, the crew grabbed at anything to keep their balance. The *Servalan's* cannon fired as the *Liberator* presented her stern to them, a narrower target. Five of the eight shots missed the barkentine, three struck, hitting only minor sails.

"Prepare to present arms!" Blake shouted to Avon as the ship completed her circle.

Avon repeated the order to the gun crews, and added, "Make every one count!"

"Fire on the upsurge!" Blake ordered.

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Target: Jan Chappell

A profile of the woman who was Cally

Jan was born Janet Victoria Chappel on June 7. When hearing her name, the nurses said "What, after the station?" She is the oldest of three children. Her father was corporate secretary for a furniture company; her mother was interested in drama and taught a course, and now teaches English as a foreign language.

Jan became interested in acting in a roundabout way. She was often picked to do readings at school assemblies, as she read well, and she would often sit in on her mother's drama workshops. Her parents never actually encouraged her to go into acting, but they never discouraged it either. They just accepted that it was what she wanted to do.

Jan attended the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, where she met Gareth Thomas. Later she was cast in a rather obscure play called *The Door.* Many roles in TV and theatre followed.

She was appearing with David Jackson in a play called *A Fair Slaughter* when she went to interview for Cally. It seemed that David Maloney had seen the play (Jan is not sure if he had heard about it or if her agent contacted him and asked him to see the play) and asked her to come in.

David Jackson was not the only B7 cast member Jan knew from before. She had known Gareth Thomas from RADA and had been in a young people's theatre company with Michael Keating. Jan also met Jacqueline Pierce at a health spa several years earlier.

She related a story about her first meeting with Michael Keating. She saw a young Michael (about 14) in "short grey flannel trousers", and remembers him as being "quite quiet—quite reserved."

Jan said that she had a lot of trouble with the costumes and hairstyle she wore on Blakes 7. The longer dresses both she and Sally Knyvette wore in the second season made it difficult to move about—she insisted on flat shoes! She also said that her perm kept growing out and caused continuity problems.

Her favorite episodes were "Children of Auron", "Sarcophagus," and any where she wears the green leather outfit, as she feels she "looks rather nice."

However, she hated "Redemption," the episode filmed in the nuclear power plant. She was very frightened and worried during filming, as they were actually filming on top of the reactor core. Jan said that all around were little signs warning about the presence of nuclear active materials, and "here we were filming, setting off explosions and even having afternoon tea right on the nuclear cap." She refused her tea and biscuits and thought the actors and crew who did eat were being stupid. (We learned at Scorpio that there was an apparent exposure problem with one of the actors).

Jan said she left the series because she felt the character was no longer a stretch for her artistically, that the demand upon her was no longer there. She felt restless and wanted to move on.

Since leaving *Blakes 7,* Jan has done theatre, and is scheduled to appear in a Jim Henson version of the Grimms' fairy tale "The Soldier and Death," as well as two episodes of a series called "After The War" by Frederich Raphael. In this, she will play Karen, the wife of a drama critic in 1957.

photograph by Kathy Coy

During her career, Jan has done many plays and has, as a consequence, become somewhat superstitious. She was talking about doing Shakespeare and mentioned being in "The Scottish Play". Our good friend Dave Smith mentioned the play's title "Macbeth" (which you're never supposed to do in a theatre), and Jan requested he leave the room, turn three times in the hallway, and knock on the door. She then let him in and we had a lively discussion on theatre superstition.

Jan has appeared in two films, *The Virgin and the Gypsy* and *The Devils.* She was also in *Jesus of Nazarreth,* but said it was glorified extra work, and if you could recognize her you should get a prize. She also appeared in a film while on vacation in Yugoslavia.

The conversation came round to Blakes 7 again. She said she "remembers filming in cold weather wearing plenty of thermal underwear and watching the steam rise from everyone's mouth as they spoke their lines."

She once had to move quietly on a hollow set while wearing clunky boots, as well as the set falling once apart as they were filming. She would film scenes and have the button she was to press fall off as she pressed it, or doing dialogue and hearing a thud from behind and realizing part of a panel had just fallen off a wall.

When asked about the Avon/Cally relationship, whether she would have liked to see it explored more fully, Jan said that both she and Paul actually enjoyed the ambiguity of their relationship. They felt the shows where there was more interplay between the actors, as opposed to action, were more artistically satisfying. They preferred the subtlety of the relationship and felt it created more interest in the characters than would a more obvious and explicit relationship.

She and Sam live in a flat in a converted house in Camden, which is a part of London. She saidit has a nice, wild garden in the back where she tends a flower bed. She likes to turn the soil and clear the land for planting.

During 1986, Jan was involved in publishing a directory of women's businesses in England. It was a project she really enjoyed, as it was something she had never done before.

For relaxation, her hobbies are gardening, piano, keyboard, classical music, and Sam. She also enjoys reading; her favorite author is Margaret Attwood.

[Conducted in Philadelphia on July 26, 1987, by Cathy Boudreau, Dave Smith, and Kay Brent]

Blakes 7 Trivia Quiz

Servalan

1. How much was she willing to pay for Orac?
2. Whose daughter did she hold hostage?
3. Why did she need Carnell?
4. What planet did she land on after the War?
5. Who was her lover?
6. Where did she reportedly die?
7. What did she offer Travis on Exbar?
8. Who was Vinni, and why did she use him?
9. When did she name herself President?
10. How long did Avon feel he would last with her?

—answers next month

Answers to October's Quiz:

1. 7. 2. A tele-ergotron. 3. A teacher. 4. Standard by 12.6. 5. A radiation-resistant animal. 6. He wanted the circuit influencer. 7. A poisonous crab. 8. Feldon crystals. 9. Servalan's former lover. 10. The Space Princess. 11. 73 kilos. 12. To pool resources against pylene 50. 13. He'd interrogated Slave.

I said it would work wonderfully if we lose Blake: A chat with Terry Nation

[This interview was conducted with Terry Nation by Tom Beck on January 17, 1988. I'd like to thank Terry for taking the time to speak with me. Part 2 will be printed in the March Renegade.]

Q. I'd like to ask you about the famous story in the *Blakes 7 Programme Guide* that you were sitting with some BBC people, and you just started talking and the idea sprung out of your mouth, and you said that you didn't exactly know where it came from. Is that story really true?

A. No, it's not, not entirely. Although that's kind of part of it. It was a very much more calculated approach to what I wanted to do. I wanted to do another science fiction show. I had actually figured out the elements that I wanted to use. I've said it many times before that it really was *The Dirty Dozen* set in space. So it was there, but it wasn't fleshed out in any way. I think I knew that much. But then, when we started to talk, the ideas begin to spring out, you then elaborate as though you know what you're talking about. And I wasn't sure that I did, but clearly I said the right things. I was able to fill out the thing a little more. But any worthwhile programmer if he heard *The Dirty Dozen* in space, it's the best encapsulation of an idea that I've ever had, I think.

Q. Do you consider yourself an abnormally glib or fast-thinking person, then?

A. Yes, under the right circumstances, yes.

Q. I read in another book that had a section on *Blakes 7* that you saw Blake as almost a Christian crusader for freedom. Did you really think of it in those terms?

A. I would be very hesitant about the Christian part of it. I doubt that I said that. But certainly I saw him as the White Knight, as the absolute ultimate Good Guy, in the first instance. He was Robin Hood, he was the cowboy in the white hat. He was dedicated to his cause, and the cause was the freedom of his people. So yes, I did see that. He was going to be the Good Guy who was framed, and all the other guys were going to be the bad guys.

Q. Did you meet the cast before shooting?

A. Yes I did. We had one meeting when it was all agreed that the show was going to be done and the actors had been cast. The BBC put on one of their splendid little cocktail parties for us, which meant we got a glass of sherry and a Spam sandwich. We met on this occasion, and I was able to talk to them then. That was about the only time we me. Because from then on I was locked away writing the scripts.

Q. Did you have any say in choosing the producer and script editor?

A. Yes, I had tremendous rights of approval on virtually anything. The producer they suggested to me I was very keen to have, because he'd done such a marvelous job on a Dalek show of mine. I was delighted. He, then, wanted a script editor. He felt very lonely left at the BBC whilst I was off working. We had dinner together with Chris Boucher, he was highly enthusiastic. I thought he'd be very good for the job. So yes, I had a lot of approval that if I'd wanted to use I could have, but everything was falling into place very nicely. The producer was doing a marvelous job of prepping the show. So I really didn't have to use anything at all. The only thing I was worried about was some of the designs for the spaceship.

Q. That was going to be my next question. How specific were your description of the different physical attributes of the show? The ship, the guns, the teleport bracelets, for example.

A. Well they were all written there. They were all described, if not in great detail. They were described well enough to know the function and the purpose of these things. The ship was supposed to be huge, it was supposed to look almost like a cathedral by the time we saw the little ship, the *London,* alongside it. But I'd always heard, this is gossip that I never confirmed, that the designers on the show wanted to make a ship that couldn't be reproduced as a toy. This goes back a lot to what happened with the Daleks. There were a number of people at the BBC who were not happy about the fact that I had an interest and a share in some other success outside of the show, in the merchandizing of the show. And I had heard that they really tried to design a ship that couldn't be made as a toy.

Q. Somebody did come up with a tiny *Liberator* model, but it's really cheap-looking. A little plastic thing.

A. That's right, but it was very hard. It was a die-cast model, and to make the dies for those things was incredibly costly.

Q. Could you reconstruct the thinking you went through in creating the original characters of the ship and the two computers?

A. The Zen computer I wanted to be an all-knowing supercomputer of the future, but one that was actually part of the very fabric of the ship itself. It wasn't just a box. It was the ship, it was the walls of the ship, it was every single nut and bolt of that ship. So it was a mechanical body. When the ship was damaged externally, then our computer would feel that pain, that discomfort. It responded constantly to what was happening to itself. It was a body with a brain, but it was a mechanical one. I think in "Terminal" that became fairly clear, the whole ship was dying.

Q. So you thought of something like that from the very beginning?

A. Yes, I did.

Q. So, in a sense, "Terminal" was implied from the start of the show?

A. I had not at that point come up with that story, but that was the feeling I always wanted, that it was a flesh-and-blood in machinery.

Q. What about the other characters? The women, Vila, Avon, Gan?

A. Some of them were really very conventional figures to begin with. I wanted a physically very strong man. Gan was obviously the one. I quite liked strong men who were incredibly gentle. That's what he was. But that's not really a character, those are just the externals. It was easier with Avon, because he had many other dimensions to him. Every time you searched for those dimensions, you could find new things. Nobody truly knew who he was, but we knew how he functioned.

For the women I didn't do terribly well at all. I thought I wrote them rather badly and gave them little to do. Jenna, who was the ex-smuggler, I guess in old Hollywood terms she was the broad with a heart of gold, tough as old boots until you found out that she was really a wonderful gentle honest person. Cally was supposed to be a different sort of character altogether, I wanted to give here these paranormal abilities. In a way they become dangerous to you, they made her too able, you've got too much going for you. Just as the way the computers can give you too much, you've got so much going for your people that they can't be beaten. You have to make them vulnerable in some way. I started out wanting Cally to do a lot of things, and then realized that it was just too much on their side.

continued on page eight

More talk

continued from page seven

Q. We've noticed that it's interesting that Avon was a computer programmer and Vila was a thief, and their personalities seemed sort of crossed, you don't think of computer programmers as bold, brave action types, and you don't think of thieves as cringing cowards, either.

A. It's possibly true. But I always tried to go against my obvious types, tried to make them something slightly different. It's what we used to call casting against type. If you're going to cast a stunningly beautiful woman, then think what would happen if you changed that character into a man. It is really examining a character and saying, "How can this be different, how can he be something else?" So I thought Vila's boastfulness and cowardice were wonderful characteristics for a guy who was a thief. I think under the heart of it, the thing about Avon was that yes, he was a man of action but locked into something quite different, a very ordinary job.

Q. Where did you get the ideas for Travis and Servalan?

A. I needed a villain, okay, when you've got your good guys going, you've got to put them up against something. We knew it was the Federation, but that's not enough, that's just an amorphous mass, you've got to physicalize the Federation, you've got to have somebody represent it. The idea that a woman should be this powerful force seemed to me to be absolutely terrific. So that seemed to fall into place well. And then she's got to have a functionary, she's got to have somebody who can do her bidding. That's where Travis came in. We really hoked him up a lot, we gave him everything, the false hand, the eyepatch, a brutal guy. He was supposed to represent the brutality of the Federation, I guess.

Q. How soon in your writing of the scripts, when you were starting to think of the first thirteen scripts, did you realize that you were going to have this Servalan-Travis subplot running through the entire season?

A. Not until I wrote "Seek-Locate-Destroy." That was the first time I thought about them. That they worked well on paper, I knew we would have to continue with that, I knew that they were good, that they felt right. I hadn't predicted that they were going to be a part of the show. There wasn't much time for preplanning anything, I was writing at a fairly high speed, so I wasn't able to project into the future too much. When I saw something that I felt worked, when I felt something good coming off the paper, then I would hang onto it and use it again.

Q. How much time elapsed between your spinning the idea out for the BBC and the time the show went into production?

A. I came away with the assignment to write it that very day. By the time I got home the guy from the BBC had called my agent and said they were doing this show as long as Terry wrote some more. And I very blandly said, oh sure, of course, no problem, little thinking that was going to take a big piece of my life. I guess it was probably about six or seven months.

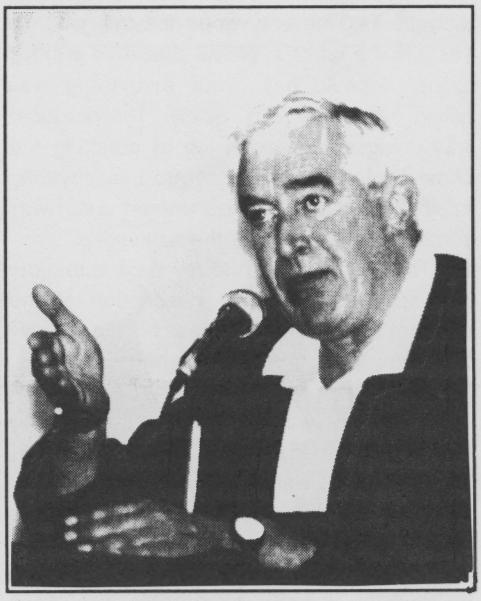

photo by Kathy Coy

Q. Why did you not write all the stories for the second season?

A. Because I was getting burned out, I was getting very tired. Thirteen hours is a pretty good start. I was getting tired and didn't want to do them all. But equally, it did need new blood in there, it needed new people with new ideas and new views of the characters. This was when the show began to broaden out and a lot of other interesting things happened, things that I would never have thought of. We needed new brains for that.

Q. Did you have any approval over the scripts?

A. Absolutely. Again I very seldom interfered. I felt that this had to be up to the script editor. Unless it was something I felt so strongly about. I mean, had anybody come up and killed Avon, I certainly wouldn't have let that happen. I wouldn't let any major developments take place without my approval and without knowing where they're going. Remember, I'm the guy who killed off the Daleks first time out. I learned my lesson then.

Q. So, such things as switching actors playing Travis you knew about and you let them do that.

A. We had no choice. There was a dispute, I'm sure it was a dispute over money and I'm sure it was a very silly dispute. But that's the way it went. I wanted to recast. I believed that another actor could come in and give me the same performance. When you consider the costume and the makeup and all of that stuff. I honestly believed that nobody would notice that much. Well, they did, of course. The second actor was not the first by a long shot. Nor did he try to be, in fairness to him. He decided to play it his way. Probably we would have done better to have introduced an entirely different character but with a lot of the same characteristics.

Q. One of the things they did in the second season was begin playing with Travis and Blake. Travis went more and more crazy, and, to be fair, Blake became more and more of a terrorist and not just a rebel leader. Did you approve of that sort of thing happening?

A. I must tell you that I was totally unaware, even in my own scripts, I still saw my guys as good guys and bad guys. It wasn't until into the second season that I suddenly had this awful realization that yes, Robin Hood was a terrorist, that my people were terrorists. That made a profound difference to the series. That realization changed things a lot. Because of the world climate, world opinion of what terrorists were, we had a very different bag of tricks on our hands, it wasn't just an entertainment show anymore, which is what I set out to be. This was something that was making comment, this was something that seemed to be saying, yes, it is right to defend what you believe to be true. The only thing I would ever do in this situation is still to make my guys on the side of the angels. You make them better by making the Federation worse. Make the Federation more and more ruthless, and perhaps you have justification for what you're doing. But I had never actually, in the early days of the show, I had never seen it as these guys being terrorists. The world caught up with me, in fact. The world overtook me.

Q. But you agree that the whole idea of Blake trying to destroy the Federation's central computer system, which controlled so much on so many planets and would hurt

with Terry Nation

so many people, even in a good cause, effectively made him a terrorist.

A. Yeah, I do agree now. I didn't recognize it until we were into the second series. Yeah, he was a terrorist.

Q. I'm not saying you believe this, I know how characters can get away from a writer, but, in a sense, Blake at least, sort of felt by that point the ends justified the means.

A. Yes.

Q. That's very interesting and it's a valid way to approach a character, even if it does mean muddying the waters somewhat.

A. Absolutely. Blake's role was a very dull one. Playing heroes is very dull. It's the heavies who have the best parts. The writers love to do it, the actors love to do it. But when we saw that streak of madness coming out in Blake, it was terrific. For the first time he was being something other than a good-looking hero.

Q. Whose idea was it to have the Andromedan invasion. Was that discussed, or was that Chris Boucher's idea for "Star One"?

A. I think that was mine. I think I did the overall notes. Let's say we're doing thirteen episodes. In episodes one and two we'd do so and so. Then we'd have a blank episode that we could do anything in. But the progression, the serialness of it, I had agreed beforehand with the producer and with Chris. We were looking for another huge cliffhanger at the end of the season.

Q. So, you had things like that planned. You knew at the end of the second season Star One would be destroyed, there'd be this alien invasion. How soon in working on the second season did you realize that Gareth was leaving the show?

A. I understand that Gareth had made some fairly strong demands that the BBC were not willing to meet. It then occurred to me, this is again going back to that quick-thinking thing we talked about earlier, I said it would work wonderfully for us if we lose Blake after the battle and we spent a lot of time looking for him. It attracted me to do a show where the main character, the title character, was missing. That attracted me very much. It worked very well for me.

Q. You've said in the past that Dalek stories work when the Daleks aren't on screen much.

A. That's right.

Q. It's sort of a similar approach.

A. I guess that's right.

Q. Moving on to the third season, who came up with the idea of having sort of a young Blake in Tarrant?

A. Me. It was a mistake. We had to have somebody for Avon to respond to. We had to have a kind of authority figure, because Avon is best when he is denying the authority of others or challenging the authority of others. So what I was looking for at that stage was a kind of young Errol Flynn, somebody who was reckless, devil-may-care. See Errol Flynn and you'll see what I mean. We didn't achieve it.

Q. What do you think was wrong about the character?

A. I think it wasn't thought through well enough. I'm not sure we gave him enough of

photo by Kathy Coy

the right things to do. It just didn't come off. That happens, you know, you try, your words are there on the paper, once in a while the actor comes along and you can feel that's terrific. Maybe we just didn't give him enough to work with.

Q. Were you as involved in the third series as you were previously? Because it seemed to a lot of us that the characters changed from week to week more than had in previous seasons.

A. I was, but not very deeply by that time. By that time, the show was getting a life of its own beyond me. I'm sure I would have talked about the overall picture, but I was getting ready by that time to come to the United States. By that time my heart wasn't in it as much as it had been, let's say that. My heart was in it, certainly, but I physically wasn't around as much. And I was writing other things, too.

Q. What were you working on at the time?

A. I was doing a pilot for an American company in Britain. I was also doing a thing called "Robin Hood" when the Americans wanted to make a Robin Hood of theirs. I just took a lot of work, just kept on working on other things.

Q. When you started working with Dayna, was she intended to be played by a black actress?

A. Yes, that was my producer's idea. We thought we were very short on minority roles at the Beeb. Why not? Let's have a black actress. And he found this kid who was just out of acting school, and he said hey, let's give her a chance. So that's what we did.

Q. We heard a story that the reason you destroyed the *Liberator* at the end of the third season was that the model was getting so damaged that it was getting too hard to keep in repair. Was that true?

A. Not to my knowledge. I just used it as a story point.

Q. So you sort of intended to deprive them of their greatest weapon and see what happened?

A. That's right. If it was good for the story, I would do it, as long as it didn't hurt the series overall and I had a way out, then I could do it.

Q. At the time, did you know that the show was going to go off the air for awhile?

A. Oh yeah, at the end of any thirteen we were unsure what was going to happen. This was one of those BBC quirks. We never knew at the end of a season whether we were coming back or not. Nobody said okay, let's do it again next year. Weeks, maybe months would go by before we actually got the go-ahead.

Q. In general, how supportive was the BBC of the show, in terms of giving it a good schedule, publicizing it, giving it a good budget?

A. I think they were about par for the course. We got what we wanted. At the BBC, if you know the right buttons to press, and certainly my producer did, he'd been there a long time, then he got what he needed. They were generally quite supportive. We got all the backing I would have expected from the BBC.

[Part Two of this interview will be printed in the March Renegade.]

Remember to renew!

Story contest winner!

Sea Thieves

continued from page five

As the *Liberator* presented her broad side to the *Servalan,* she dipped down in the water, then rose sharply. When Avon felt the ship reach her peak, he gave the order.

"Fire!" Avon shouted. Vila, Gan, Cally, and four other gun captains put burning cord to touch-hole. The *Liberator* rocked back as the guns fired almost as one. Huge holes were blown into the side of the *Servalan* and her forward sails were brought down.

The *Servalan* answered with her own salvo. The aft sails of the *Liberator* were knocked down and two holes blown in the deck. The *Liberator* fired again and brought down the rest of the *Servalan's* sails and damaged her wheelhouse.

"Bring her in close!" Blake ordered. Jenna eased the Liberator alongside the galleon. "Prepare to board!" he called to his crew. They were ready.

When both ships were close together, the crew of the *Liberator* used ropes and planks to board the Federation vessel. They were met with pistol fire from the Federation sailors and returned the same. Blake swung across and headed for the quarterdeck.

"Travis!" Blake cried as he reached the stairs. The man in the uniform of a Federation sea captain turned at the sound of his name coming from a familiar, yet despised voice.

"Blake!" Travis answered. "It had to be you. It just *had* to be you."

Blake advanced up the stairs with his cutlass ready, as Travis drew his own. Travis immediately took the offensive and lunged. Blake parried the blow and struck back. His thrust was as deftly blocked by Travis. The man had learned well to compensate for his missing eye and lack of depth perception.

Each man fought for his life with consummate skill, looking for an advantage. Blake found an opening first and thrust his sword into Travis's side. Travis cried out and clutched at the open wound. He dropped his sword and fell to his knees. Weakly, but gallantly, he tried to retrieve his weapon and continue the fight. Blake easily kicked the sword away from him. Travis looked up at Blake with all the hatred of a lifetime.

"Damn you to hell, Blake!" he spat, then fell forward and died.

Blake stared at the body for a few more moments, catching his breath. Then he looked about him to see how the rest of the battle fared. His crew had won the day. There were many bodies lying about the deck. Avon was coming toward him. There was blood on his clothes and a lot more on his cutlass.

"The ship is ours, Captain," Avon said with a battle-weary voice.

"What's the toll?" Blake asked quietly.

"Seven dead and twenty-three wounded," Avon replied. "They're being taken off."

"And the *Servalan?"*

Avon smiled his wicked smile. "Her crew's all dead, Captain. The cargo's what we heard it to be."

Blake went to the railing of the quarterdeck and looked out over the main deck.

"Men!" he called out. They all halted to listen. "Men, the *Servalan* is ours! When the cargo has been loaded, the wounded cared for, and the dead disposed of, we sail for Portobello Town and a rest!"

"Hurrah for Blake!" Gan cried, waving his bloodstained cutlass in the air. "Hurrah for Blake, the best pirate on the seven seas!"

A cheer went up and the chanted his name. "Blake, Blake, Blake!"

"Blake? Blake? Are you there, Blake?"

Roj Blake reached over his bed and activated the comlink. "Yes, Jenna?" he asked sleepily.

"Come to the flight deck," she said.

"On my way," he answered.

Blake rubbed the sleep from his eyes as he walked onto the flight deck of the *Liberator.*

"The information we got from Tortowa was correct," Cally said. "There she is, the Federation merchant vessel *Seville."*

"Have they seen us?" Blake asked.

"They've seen us," Avon answered. "And it looks like they're turning to fight. They know they can't outrun us."

"Battle computers are on line," Gan said.

"Neutron blasters are cleared and primed," Vila reported. "The radiation flare shield is up."

"Here they come," said Jenna.

"Steady as she goes," Blake ordered. "Prepare to fire on the upsurge."

Suddenly, Blake realized the others were looking at him with puzzled faces.

"Never mind," he said. "Prepare to fire."

Write for
The Renegade!

More Letters

continued from page two

record for newsletter delays? Just some strange comments I've been meaning to throw out.

Edward Jones

Wait until you see "Paradise Tower" to judge Sylvester McCoy as the Doctor (see page three for details); we think he's excellent. Bernard Horsfall was in four episodes: he also played Gulliver in "The Mind Robber" and Taron in "Planet of the Daleks." We have no idea what's happening to DWFCA these days. For a club with a guaranteed regular newsletter, join us. Oh, you already have! For a new national club, see the note on page twelve about Lionheart's Friends of Doctor Who.

Dear Prydonians:

You will have noticed my name once again adorning the front page of your little publication, and once again it is associated with a set of activities that have taken place in that fantasy Federation that exists only in your editor's mind. Were his imaginings true, I myself would be the first to admit that my nomination to the Federation Supreme Court is absurd, since I am neither qualified for nor the least bit interested in the position.

Fortunately for you, this scenario is sufficiently divorced from reality that there is no danger of its being taken seriously. The current President of the Terran Federation, elected this past November, is not "Sherman" but one Bercol, nephew and namesake of the late Senator Bercol, who served as High Councillor and head of the Federation Bureau of Information for so many years.

Your editor's publication of anonymous pseudo-reports that I am some sort of lapsed drug addict reflects a level of petty malice and shoddy journalism that I had not expected to encouncter. And the report is by its nature absurd. The drug Shadow, taken in any quantity, kills its user within the year; I should not have survived any experimenting I might have done. In addition, I seem to recall that someone called Roj Blake claimed a number of years ago to have destroyed the entire Shadow traffic network. Of course, Blake did have some difficulty reconciling himself with reality. In this, your editor appears to emulate him.

Sleer,
Commissioner, Federation Security

Enough already! RIP, please.

Notes from the Library

A Year in the Life

by Linda Anne Lineaweaver, Librarian

It was in the fall of 1986 that I first became aware of the existence of fan literature and art in fanzines. It is a quirk of my nature that I did not want to begin reading Blakes 7 fanzines until I'd viewed the entire series; I was dismayed that, by any count, that would take at least one full year. Episode one had not yet even aired in our area! But then Channel 12 in Philadelphia decided to run the series. After showing the first two stories during a pledge drive in August, they ran the rest of the series every weekday evening for ten weeks. I was ready—bring on the zines!

The first thing you learn about fanzines is that they are rather expensive; not if you buy one, mind you, but who can buy just one? Then there is the problem of finding them, the new ones, the old ones, the overseas ones. This was not going to be as easy as I had first thought.

In January 1987 I first thought of a lending library for the Prydonians. Many of our members had had no exposure to the large body of fan-generated literature and art that was available. The club had just begun to cover the universe of Blakes 7, so our library was to cover Doctor Who as well. And so began the Prydonians of Prynceton Fanzine Lending Library. It was decided that the Library would be a self-sustaining unit within the club, with separate finances and open to all club members in good standing. Membership would be through a $10 registration fee or the donation of DW or B7 fanzines of equal or greater value. Fanzines could be borrowed for 25¢ per month per zine.

The first acquisitions came with my attendance at ClipperCon, a fan-run con in Baltimore in February. Membership in the Library opened in March, and, over the next several months, it grew to 10 members. Several of them contributed very generously from their own collections.

The Library made its first appearance at a club function at the May 1987 Anniversary Picnic. In my absence, member Dorothy Case volunteered to set up and watch over a reading table with approximately fifty zines set out for perusal. Member Sandy Hanson also made available a number of zines from her private library. All the zines were enthusiastically received.

At the June Assembly at the Lawrenceville Library, a reading table was again set up. Due to my attending Media West over the Memorial Day weekend, the Library now had over 100 zines covering a wide sampling of both Doctor Who and Blakes 7 fan literature. Six more members joined, and borrowing was allowed for the first time.

Borrowing by mail was discussed and inquiries were invited by regular mention of the Library in *The Renegade.* Letters from members who do not normally attend many club functions because of distance or time constraints told us that they would like to be able to borrow by mail. Therefore, in order to share the Library with as many members as possible, this became available in late June.

The Library has grown by leaps and bounds over the past year. By the end of the year we had 46 members and almost 300 fanzines! Despite the misgivings of one fanzine editor, who thought a library would decrease the number of zines bought by fans, it has been my experience, through working with the Library and talking to its enthusiastic members, that quite the contrary is true. The Library has introduced fan literature to many members who did not even know it existed, and many have begun their own collections because of their exposure to the Library. In this spirit I would like to thank club member and fanzine editor Mary Ann Johanson for her recent letter and the donation of her most recent publication, *Portals,* vol. 2, no. 2, to the Library.

Besides my contributions gleaned through attending every convention where I thought I might be able to obtain new zines, thanks must go out to the many members who have contributed to the smooth running and rapid expansion of the Library through their giving freely of their time and of zines from their own libraries. Members Karlene Hartel, Tom Beck, Dorothy Case, Sandy Hanson, Gail Daltry, Judy Chien, Kathy Coy, Cindy Henry, and Steve Zwanger have all made large contributions from their own libraries. Karlene continues her support by buying for the Library a copy of each zine she purchases for her own collection. Special thanks also go out to Sandy Hanson and Cindy Rancourt for helping me transport the Library to club functions.

I would also like to thank the Library itself, through which I have been able to meet such a nice group of people. It has been a very positive experience for me, and I think for many other members of the club, who have been given an added opportunity to interact, share ideas, and have fun. Isn't that what this club, and others like it, are all about?

For more information about the Library, send a SASE to me at 4D8 Arbor Green, Beverly, NJ 08010, or, better yet, come and see us at DSV 1. The Library and a reading table will be set up in the Convention Suite. You can join both the club and the Library in the dealers room. Borrowing from the Library will be permitted at the end of the convention. See you all there!

Prydonian Renegade Competition
Competition Number 9

Little Cygnus Alpha on the Prairie

Sleer's

Cagney and Lacey and Servalan

Above, pilots Terry Nation wrote before coming up with *Blakes 7.* Submit other ideas he would have been equally wise to reject.

Competition rules: All entries must be typewritten or legibly handwritten. Only one entry (3 shows) per member. Send to Competition Number 9, Prydonian Renegade, PO Box 3194, Princeton, NJ 08543-3194. Deadline is February 13.

Results of Competition 8, in which you were asked for theme songs for B7 characters.

First Prize: Servalan: "I don't know how to love him." Vila: "We don't need another hero. Sleer: "I've Grown Accustomed to Her Face." *Barbara Teichert*

Second Prize: Vila: "Poor, Poor Pitiful Me." Federation Guard Corps: "Another One Bites the Dust." All the Regulars and 85% of the Guest Stars by the end of the series: "Ain't it Good to be Bloody Well Dead?" *Bruce Lutz*

Call the TARDIS!

The club operates Section 13 on The TARDIS BBS, one of the largest computer bulletin boards in New Jersey. It runs 24 hrs a day at 300–2400 baud. The number is 609-448-1361. For access to section 13, leave e-mail to Tom Beck. Members post news and rumors, have trivia quizzes, and rag on Tom. Join the fun!

"Friends of Doctor Who" is new Lionheart club

The Friends of Doctor Who is the name of Lionheart's proposed new national club. It will supplement local clubs with a quarterly newsletter with official news and with news about local clubs. The yearly fee will be $5. They will undertake the club only if enough fans want it. If you're interested, write them at PO Box 2030, Media, PA 19063. Tell them you heard about it from us.

DW//B7 "APA" Seeks Members

A new Doctor Who/Blakes 7 "apa" (amateur publishing alliance) called *Who's 7* is looking for members. It will be bimonthly, with four pages due every two issues. There is a $5 entry fee. Send a SASE to 216 Witherspoon Street, Princeton, NJ 08540. The first issue is tentatively scheduled for early March.

Relaxicon I is coming our way

Relaxicon I, the first in a new series of projected conventions in our area, will be held Sunday, May 1, at the War Memorial Auditorium in Trenton, NJ. The invited guest is Sophie Aldred, who plays Ace, the new Companion on Doctor Who. This will be Sophie's first American convention. Tickets are $12.50 in advance. Make your check payable to Varosian Productions and enclose a SASE. Mail to Relaxicon I, PO Box 3373, Bethlehem, PA 18017. Tell them where you heard of the con.

We will be providing volunteers at this convention and suggesting programming. If you have any ideas for Doctor Who–oriented panels, let us know.

Club Pen Pals Needs You

Only two responses to our Pen Pals idea. We need more! Send a SASE with your name, age, and interests in DW and/or B7. We'll match you with your counterpart.

ICON VII has loads of guests

ICON VII, with invited guests Anthony Ainley, Patrick Stewart, Harlan Ellison, Hal Clement, and Samuel Delaney, will be held April 15–17, on the campus of SUNY Stony Brook on Long Island. Tickets are $16 until March 25. Write ICON VII, PO Box 550, Stony Brook, NY 11790. Enclose a SASE.

Orac's Joke File

Jenna said she was a famous *snuggler*. Blake misunderstood

Being a telepath means never having to think your sorry

Zen can't chew gum and do cube roots at the same time

Zen's Joke File

If the one called Orac were dipped in chocolate, he'd still be hard to swallow

---

The Prydonians of Prynceton
PO Box 3194
Princeton, NJ 08543-3194

(Note New Address!)

Karen and Scott 10/88
Avenue
Audubon, NJ 08106

Warning! If your address label is printed in *green*, your membership expires at the end of next month.

If your address label is printed in *red*, your membership expires with this issue. This will be your last issue of *The Renegade* unless you renew your dues by the end of this month.

Dated Material—*Please Rush!*